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DATE:

May 16, 2003

TO:

Examiner John K. Ford Group Art Unit: 3743

Telephone No.: 703.308.2636

RE:

Interview

U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 09/869,325

By: OHKI, Yuta

Your Reference: PCT0006-US

Our Reference: P1181-4117-010919

FROM:

John F. Carney

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 2

FACSIMILE TELEPHONE NUMBER: 703-308-7764

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Per our upcoming interview of May 19, 2003, at 10:00 am.

Carue

JFC/cmp

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PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

<u>U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/869,325</u>

- 1. (Twice Amended) A sample temperature regulator comprising:
- a heating block having a receptacle formed therein as a sample container holder, said heating block attaching a temperature-controllable heater;
- a cooling block <u>separate from said heating block and</u> having a cooling mechanism; and a connecting plate <u>separate from said heating block and said cooling block and being</u> positioned between and attaching the heating block with <u>respect to</u> the cooling block;

wherein the connecting plate is made of a material having a thermal conductivity lower than those of these two blocks.

- 7. A sample temperature regulator comprising:
 - a heating block having a sample container holder and a temperature-controllable heater;
 - a cooling block having a cooling mechanism; and
 - a connecting plate for combining the heating block and the cooling block with each other;
- wherein the connecting plate is made of a material having a thermal conductivity lower than those of these two blocks; and
 - a refluxing block which is brought into contact with an upper port of a sample container.
- 8. The sample temperature regulator according to claim 7, wherein the cooling block is combined with a plurality of heating blocks.

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